

WEATHER FORECAST:

Fair and Warmer Tonight and Wednesday; Southerly Winds. Full Report on Editorial Page.

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DRY CLAUSE A TRICK BASED ON WAR NEED

Prohibition in U. S. Question
of Ethics, Says Writer.

HAS NO PLACE IN FOOD BILL

Need of All Nation's Grain for
Food Requires Proof.

By DAVID LAWRENCE.

Champions of prohibition in Congress may be absolutely right about the need for an abolition of the liquor traffic but they are playing a dangerous hand, dangerous to the welfare of the country in the long run by the tactics they are pursuing. If the people of the United States really want prohibition and a majority of both Houses in Congress want to pass it, the measure can be passed on its merits and in detachment from the food administration bill.

Enough antagonism developed out of the prohibition fight in the last Congress to kill one of the most progressive measures ever introduced in Congress—the reform of the Federal judiciary. There was no opposition to the bill before the liquor fight began. Vindictiveness doomed it. By analogy the same thing may happen in the present instance. Passage of the food administration bill is the most vital thing before Congress. All the nations of the world, our own as well as neutrals, are waiting for Herbert C. Hoover to regulate the world's food supply. He cannot act until the food administration bill is a law. Having succeeded in tacking a prohibition rider on the food bill, that measure is now to be subjected to more debate and delay.

It means new antagonism and means new difficulties for Mr. Hoover later on in the operation of the law.

Hoover Avoided Question.

Mr. Hoover's effort has been to avoid a decision on the ethical questions involved in prohibition. In fact, the difficulty today is that Congress is failing to distinguish between prohibition as an ethical question and as a war measure. And the public opinion of the country is not crystallized because the average man doesn't know whether prohibition is a military necessity or the device of the anti-liquor crusaders to win their point by indirect tactics.

Great Britain and Russia proclaimed prohibition, to be sure, as a war measure, a circumstance that undoubtedly stimulated its advocates in this country, but the executive branch of our own Government, the War Department in particular, has not said a word to indicate that the abolition of the sale of liquor to civilians is necessary to the sustenance of industrial energy or the successful prosecution of the war.

Until President Wilson or Secretary Baker come out strongly in favor of prohibition the measure will have only an artificial strength based upon confusing statistics and a complication of desires in the body politic.

Wilson Would Sign Bill.

Undoubtedly the President would sign a prohibition bill if passed by both Houses. He could not do otherwise. For the present he will be scrupulously careful not to interfere, but if the food administration bill gets tied up in the Senate he will be compelled to assert his influence in some way to obtain the greater object—the passage of the food bill.

Mr. Wilson could do no more courageous thing, however, than by facing the issue squarely before it affects the temper of Congress and the status of future legislation.

Statistics of various kinds have been adduced to prove that the grain used in alcohol is needed in food-stuffs. This may or may not be true. What the President ought to do is to appoint a commission of reputable men to discover the facts and report to him within two months whether the grain used in making alcohol is absolutely needed for the conservation of the nation's food supply.

"If it is, there can be no doubt about the support of the country for prohibition as a war measure, no matter how inconvenient or confiscatory the result. For this is a day of sacrifices. Question Needs Proof.

But should it be proved that the grain is not essential and that the nation will be well-served without the proposed abolition of liquor manufacture, then the question is purely ethical. As such it is not a war measure but a domestic question and the people should have an opportunity through their political parties to say how the reform shall be best accomplished.

Prohibition, like woman suffrage, may be just now an extraneous issue, perhaps necessary eventually to the welfare of the nation, but not urgent, and until Congress begins to realize that the United States must bend every energy toward enacting into law essential proposals, the efficiency of our national legislature in comparison with the British and French parliaments will be seriously questioned and will give our allies real reason for wonder whether the United States actually realizes the urgency or gravity of the great war in which she has entered.

War Floods City With Cranks

Fanatics Driven Wild by World Strife Hurry to
Capital to Advise President—Keep
Police Department Busy.

Eighty-four persons, a majority of them men having "absolutely sure" schemes for ending the European war and putting the United States on the winning side have been arrested by the Washington police since June 1, and the end has not yet come. The Washington Asylum hospital, previous

to that date, has been receiving on an average of twenty-eight or thirty mental defectives each month since war was declared on Germany.

Thirty-five of those arrested this month have been sent to the Washington Asylum, while the remaining fifty-four were sent to St. Elizabeth's. The District Commissioners and Police Department officials have become aroused at the increasingly large number of "cranks" and other mentally defective persons since war was declared.

Flooded With Complaints.

Sanitary Inspector Lynn, who examines all persons detained by the police on a charge of insanity, said today that the police of every large city in the country are being flooded with complaints about mentally defective men and women who are causing more worry to detectives and policemen than the ordinary run of thieves and crooks. He said that three-fourths of the people brought before him since April have been unbalanced by the excitement and furore of war.

"The situation is particularly acute in Washington because Washington is the official seat of war operations in the United States and because President Wilson's life is endangered by many of the fanatics," he said. "Of course, the police and Secret Service agents are vigilant and do not allow any person suspected of being irrational to get within talking distance of the White House, but the danger is nevertheless potential."

Come To Washington.

Inspector Lynn declared that the first thing a fanatic wants to do when he becomes convinced that "war is hell" and that it should be stopped instantly is to board a train and come to Washington.

In reference to the efficiency of the Metropolitan Police Department, it might be said that except in a few isolated cases, such persons are captured before they leave Union Station. "Some of these fanatics have conceived splendid ideas of how a war should be carried on," declared Mr. Lynn, "but fortunately their ideas are supplemented with collateral schemes and crazy-side issues which always let the cat out of the bag."

World Supplant Sleuths.

"I listened intently to one suspect a few days ago who said he had a clever idea which would supplant detectives. I thought there might be something worth while in his suggestion until he told me his substitute was a wireless invention designed to catch burglars. I knew then that my friend was a subject for observation."

A goodly per cent of those arrested, however, have designs on the life of the President or some high official, and if they are not caught immediately upon arrival in Washington, they may accomplish much harm.

Not later than this morning a fanatic from New Jersey was arrested at the Department of Justice. He said he came to Washington to lodge a complaint against a certain Jerseyite who had cornered the powder market and was prepared to blow up every munition factory in the country.

COMMISSION PROBES CANNED GOODS PRICES

Plans to Punish Combination That
Robs Consumers.

The Federal Trade Commission today announced that it has laid plans to "get" all extortioners in canned goods.

Following an investigation, which still continues, the commission discloses that canned goods costing the wholesaler 7 to 9 cents, and sometimes less than the former figure, cost housewives from 18 to 20 cents.

A large part of the canned goods sold today at that price were bought from last year's pack. The sale price, though, the commission declares, is the same for that of this year's goods.

The commission further declared it has evidence of "organization" among the growers of canned products to keep up prices.

The investigation will disclose what prices middlemen are to pay and what quantities are being purchased. This latter information will be utilized to determine possible attempts to hoard for speculation.

All information is to be turned over to the new food administration.

SERBIAN MINISTRY RESIGNS.

CORFU, June 26.—The new Serbian ministry has resigned. A new cabinet will be formed with Nikola P. Pachitch as premier and minister of foreign affairs.

LANE WOULD FIX PRICES ON COAL

Five Hundred Operators
Cheer His Request.

NOT TO TOLERATE HIGH RATES

Cabinet Officer Urges Low Prices
as Patriotic Move.

Five hundred coal operators rose and gave three cheers today in answer to an appeal by Secretary Lane that he be given authority to fix the price of coal for the duration of the war.

The appeal to the nation for this authority was made in an address before operators from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky, here to confer with members of the Council of National Defense.

"I ask you gentlemen gathered here to let me deal with the people of the United States in fixing the price of coal for the duration of the war," said Secretary Lane, "and I guarantee to you that I will give both you and the people a square deal."

Indicates Firm Stand.

The tone of Secretary Lane's speech indicated clearly that the Government is firm in its determination to prevent the coal barons from demanding exorbitant prices during war times.

"The law of supply and demand which governs the price of coal has no standing in case of a national need to recognize such a law at this hour," he said.

The address was aimed to arouse the patriotic spirit of the coal operators and to induce them to subordinate self in the nation's need, for, he said, "you are not living for yourself today, you are living for the whole people of the United States, for the people of the entire world. What right have you gentlemen to take advantage of a nation to reap enormous profits at this time?"

He pleaded for a practical, far-sighted program, one which would in years reflect credit to them and their business.

Seriousness of Times.

Speaking of the seriousness of the times he said, "Over there, gentlemen," pointing in the direction of Arlington Cemetery, "lie the bodies of thousands of men who have given their lives that you and I might live in a free country. Two years from today, gentlemen, there will be along the banks of that river a greater graveyard than Arlington, and it will be filled with boys who have given their lives that democracy may live forever."

"Bury your desire for profits; take a just and reasonable profit for your work, for I know your trials; some of you have come to me many times with them, and I want to say to you now that your duty to yourself and to the nation is to be satisfied with a profit that is reasonable and not with one that represents the highest the people will stand."

Says Consumer Is Robbed.

The American coal operator is bliking the consumer out of great sums of money daily under cover of "war conditions."

This statement, in effect, was made to the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee today by C. M. Moderswell, of Chicago, member of the coal committee of the Council of National Defense, and until recently associated with the United Coal Mining Company of Illinois.

Moderswell declared that in Illinois the cost of producing coal had increased only about 80 cents a ton, while charges made by operators for the output had increased in prices from \$2.50 to \$5 a ton and \$4.50 to \$6 a ton.

LABOR MEN TO SERVE ON EXEMPTION BOARDS

Will Be Named to Hear Claims on
Occupational Grounds.

The laboring man of the nation will have "a friend at court" on the appellate exemption boards that sift out the men for America's armies, it was learned today.

On each of the district boards that hear exemption claims for occupational reasons there will be one representative of the laboring men—in most cases a recognized leader of organized labor in the community.

In response to urgent appeals from national labor men, the War Department today decided to give organized labor representation on each of the higher tribunals.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and a member of the labor committee of the Advisory Board of the Council of National Defense, has submitted a list of nominations of prominent local labor leaders to the appellate tribunals.

With the exception of Maryland, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, the personnel of the local exemption boards of the entire country was today complete.

Summer Rates Now in Effect To the Pacific Coast. Santa Fe Railway. Woodward building, Phone Main 1071. Adv.

TO THE READERS OF THE WASHINGTON TIMES

I have sold The Washington Times to Mr. Arthur Brisbane. I didn't sell it because I wished to part with it. I sold it because Mr. Brisbane was keenly anxious to own it and paid me a bigger price for it than it was worth to me.

I part with The Times with real regret, but with the consciousness that, on the whole, it is the wise thing for me to do, and with the consciousness, too, that The Times during my ownership has never, so far as I have knowledge, advocated any measure or stood for anything that meant personal advantage to me.

FRANK A. MUNSEY.

Red Cross Fund Exceeds Goal

War Chest for Humanity Overflows With Subscriptions, But Necessity for Continuing Donations Is Emphasized.

Already oversubscribed, the Red Cross war service fund continued to climb higher today. By night, according to estimates of the war council of the Red Cross, the total amount subscribed by the nation will reach \$105,000,000.

Today's subscriptions from New York city are yet to be heard from. Red Cross headquarters was swamped today with returns from cities in all parts of the country.

Officials said it was impossible to estimate what the total amount will reach, when all returns are in.

See Continuing Task.

Declaring that Washington will subscribe its full quota of a half million dollars to the \$100,000,000 fund, and that at least this amount must be raised in Washington each year as long as the war lasts, Henry B. F. Macfarland, chairman of the Red Cross finance committee, today announced that his committee would continue its campaign for funds as long as the war continues.

"Lord Northcliffe said in his letter to our mass meeting Sunday that the war is just the beginning of the larger campaign," Mr. Macfarland said today. "Therefore, the close of Red Cross week is just the beginning of the larger campaign. Not more than one-half of the people of Washington, at the outside, have yet given (Continued on Second Page.)

WORK IS UNDER WAY AT ANNAPOLIS CAMP

Preliminary Labor Is Begun at
Nearby Cantonment.

Preliminary work has been started at the Annapolis Junction cantonment, where 40,000 troops of southern Pennsylvania are to be trained for the national army. National Guard engineers are making preliminary surveys before the contractors begin work on construction of the cantonment buildings.

The War Department in a statement today expresses confidence in the ability of the contracting firm of Smith, Hauser & McIsaac to complete its work on schedule time, September 1.

"This company was organized in 1914," the department's statement says, "by contractors of large experience and has carried out in the last two years a \$4,500,000 contract for the New York board of water supply and a \$2,250,000 contract for the New York public service commission. The latter was a subway, built under extremely difficult conditions."

VENIZELLOS GETS TASK OF FORMING CABINET

Requested by King Alexander to
Name New Ministry.

ATHENS, June 26.—King Alexander formally announced today that he had entrusted former Premier Eleutherios Venizelos with the task of forming a new cabinet.

Venizelos, who left Athens and founded a provisional government for Greece at Saloniki after former King Constantine had refused to carry out the policies demanded by the Greek people, is expected to reach Athens shortly.

His selection as premier is expected to bring together all elements in Greece and signalize the institution of immediate reforms.

ASK ITALY TO DELAY COCCHI PROSECUTION

Request of U. S. Officials Precede
to Extradition.

Acting on a request of Governor Whitman of New York, the State Department today asked Italy to delay court proceedings in the case of Alfredo Cocchi, accused of murdering Ruth Cruger of New York. This is equivalent to a request for Italy to drop court proceedings, after which negotiations will be undertaken for extradition, about which there is some question.

NEW YORK, June 26.—The Ruth Cruger murder mystery took a new turn today with the summoning before the grand jury of Father Gaspar Moretto, Italian priest, who early this morning admitted to the authorities that Alfredo Cocchi confessed to him just before he escaped to Italy.

Three other significant facts came to light in the various probes of police laxity and the mystery itself. District Attorney Swann announced that he expected to have definite evidence today that the police made a determined effort to shield Cocchi and sidetrack the investigation.

ROME, June 26.—Bologna authorities today, gathering every possible bit of evidence of Alfredo Cocchi's past life, do not believe that part of his confession stating that Ruth Cruger died in a fall during the scuffle in Cocchi's New York shop, in which she repulsed the Italian's advances.

Dispatches received from Bologna today asserted close investigation of letters received from Cocchi's wife by the authorities suggested Cocchi was suffering from a horrible type of degeneracy made manifest by attacks on children.

DIPLOMA 50 YEARS LATE

Champ Clark Honored by College
Which Expelled Him.

A collegiate diploma fifty years overdue was delivered yesterday to Champ Clark, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Just half a century ago Mr. Clark was expelled from Transylvania University at Lexington, Ky., "for shooting at a man," as the Speaker explained the incident to his friends.

The shooting had no tragic results, and the future Speaker of the House completed his education at Bethany College and the Cincinnati Law School.

He was at one time president of Marshall College, West Virginia.

NINE NEW SUFFS ARRESTED AFTER CHARGE ON POLICE

Militants March on White House in Two Squads,
All With Banners—Give \$25 Bail Each
for Release.

The nine suffragists arrested today were released on \$25 bail each, supplied by Miss Ella C. Van Winkle. They are charged with violating the "peace and order" act, and must appear in Police Court tomorrow morning. Twenty-five cases against the militants will come up for hearing at that time.

Nine suffrage banner bearers of the National Women's party were arrested in front of the White House at noon today in a further attempt to resume picketing in front of the Executive Mansion.

The six in the first group are Mrs. Annie Arnel, Wilmington, Del.; Miss Mand Jamison, Norfolk, Va.; Miss Lavinia Dock, Fairfield, Pa.; Miss Hazel Hunkins, Billings, Mont.; Miss Gladys Greiner, Baltimore; Miss Virginia Arnold, Asheville, N. C. The three arrested ten minutes later in the second rally are Miss Mabel Vernon, Nevada; Miss Catherine Moray, Brooklyn, Mass., and Vivian Pierce, San Diego, Cal.

The women charged the police in two separate detachments, making no attempt to conceal their flaming yellow banners.

Suffragists without banners acted in a suspicious manner to attract the police detail toward the western end of the White House sidewalk. Under cover of this strategy, a detachment of six pickets flying banners aloft were rushed toward the east front gate of the Executive Mansion grounds.

Police Off Their Guard.

The police were caught off guard and the banners were carried to the very gates of the White House before the bluecoats and policemen could seize them.

The six women were grabbed and the banners confiscated, with the exception of one carried by Mrs. Annie Arnel, of Delaware, who battled with the police for possession of her emblem. Rather than resort to violence, Miss Arnel permitted her to carry it to Police Headquarters.

While the police were rushing their first six captives into a motor car the suffrage forces again took advantage of the confusion and tried to rush a separate detachment and three pickets with banners toward another sector of the White House lawn.

They failed to reach their objective, however, for policemen who had stuck to their post grabbed the second group, who were also rushed to headquarters.

May Be Held On Bail.

The women were ushered into a private room for a conference with Inspector Grant, Lieutenant Duval and other police officers. It was understood at headquarters that the practice of releasing suffragist on their personal bond would be abolished and that all persons caught in today's "drive" would be held for \$25 bail. The conference was secret but it was understood the latest "suff" captives would be charged with violation of section 5 of the Peace and Order Act, aimed at inciting to disorderly assemblies.

The militants left headquarters in two squads. In the first Miss Arnold, who led the procession, carried a lettered banner with a legend, "How long must women wait for liberty."

Miss Jamison brought up in the rear with a banner reading, "Mr. President, what will you do for woman suffrage?"

Prepared for Long Fight.

The suffragists who have been arrested are all charged with a violation of section 5 of the peace and order act, and it was understood that all twelve arrested yesterday and the four taken previously would all be arraigned at the same time. The suffragists had expected at least twenty-four hours, they said, and if they are hurriedly summoned to court, they will ask additional time, to get counsel and arrange for witnesses. This was regarded as an indication of the fact that the women are prepared for a long court fight, if necessary.

ARMY RULES IN SPAIN
BECAUSE OF INTRIGUES

All Constitutional Guarantees Suspended by Cabinet.

MADRID, June 26.—Suspension of all constitutional guarantees was announced by the cabinet today.

The ministers explained that widespread political intrigues necessitated this step, in effect establishing martial law throughout the nation.

ROGER WILLIAMS RESIGNS

District License Clerk Attache Long
In Service.

Roger Williams, of the office of the District license clerk, has resigned, to take effect July 5. Mr. Williams has been ill for some time. He entered the District service as a clerk last in the executive office in October, 1879. From March 18, 1899, to March 15, 1900, he served as assessor of the district, and later was appointed clerk to the excise board, which position he held until 1912.

GERMAN ENVOY RESIGNS.

LONDON, June 26.—Herr Michaelis, the German minister to Norway, has resigned and is returning to Germany, according to Scandinavian dispatches. The Morning Post's Christiania correspondent, however, says that this is not connected with the recent discovery that explosives were being brought into Norway from Germany.